

Washington –

Rep. Lee Terry today sent a letter to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) head Lisa Jackson calling on the agency to produce a long-stalled energy supply study. The letter, authored by Terry and Senator Roy Blunt (MO) was signed by 27 Representatives and 9 Senators. The Energy Information Administration (EIA) has pointed to the increased use of different types of fuels in different locations as one factor in our nation's gasoline price volatility. The proliferation of these specialty or "boutique" fuels increases the chance that localities using them will experience inventory shortages when nationwide fuel supplies are low; thus, causing gasoline prices to rise.

In 2005, Congress directed the EPA and the Department of Energy (DOE) to undertake a Fuel Harmonization Study in order to examine the effects varying fuel standards might have on issues like fuel prices. This report was due to Congress by June in 2008 but has never been completed, which is a clear violation of Congress' intent to find out what is causing price spikes in gasoline.

Terry's letter called on Jackson to conduct the Fuel Harmonization Study as soon as possible and to respond to Congress promptly.

"Not only did the EPA and DOE fail to produce this study, they have provided no explanation as to why a congressional directive was ignored.▯ Nebraskans are paying \$3.96 a gallon at the pump.▯ They – and all Americans – want Congress to take a comprehensive approach to America's energy policy – from increasing our supply of American-made energy to simplifying our nation's increasingly complex gasoline distribution infrastructure.▯ Examining unnecessary domestic energy constraints caused by the proliferation of specialty fuels is an important step," Terry said.